

Columbus is Dead



Issue One

We are Arawak City

Columbus is Dead, Volume 3, Issue 1
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Introduction

"Columbus is a city contrived for the purposes of running the state government of Ohio. This is a city that values big business, big university and suburban expansion above all else. This is a city that erases its history through a nearly uncontested monoculture at the expense of all other ways of life. This is a city that forces everything else to retreat within it to the shadows of the city or else serve this culture and its mindset. Columbus, the name of this city was chosen generations ago by government bureaucrats bringing all that is dull and gray together in the middle of the state for no other purpose than government. This city acts much like the imperialist stooge it is named after, spreading the disease of its monoculture and putting underfoot that which doesn't submit. And so this is the reason that resistance takes the name of those native peoples who were nearly wiped out by our city's namesake. We are Arawakans and we live in Arawak City."

Columbus is Dead is a zine of varied interests coming out of Arawak City. We have many cultures and are many overlapping communities tied together through circumstance and the desire to see something more than business as usual. We are artists, laymen, progressives, radicals, professionals, transients, autonomous builders, anti-authoritarian agitators and everything in between. This zine is for Arawak City.

This volume of *Columbus is Dead* is an attempt to share the media many from our community publishes on the internet. We take from local media sources friendly to Arawak City, though not all that we select is of local interest, sometimes regional, national or global perspectives may be taken.

We want to include more individual and group articles, essays and reportbacks. If there is no Internet url for an article, it will be placed on cbusimc.org by default. Contact brokendoor@cbusimc.org for details on how to be published.

Columbus is Dead can be found at these fine locations:

Short North

Victorian's Midnight Cafe

251 W. 5th Avenue (at Neil)

Columbus, OH 43201

(614) 299-2295

Hours: 9AM - Midnight (Open until 1AM on Friday and Saturday)

<http://victoriansmidnightcafe.com>

Monkey's Retreat

1202 N. High St.

Columbus, OH 43201

614-294-9511

<http://MonkeysRetreat.com/>

MonkeysRetreat@MonkeysRetreat.com

Spore Print Infoshop

172 E. 5th ave.

Columbus, Ohio

614-299-INFO

<http://sporeprint.info>

info@sporeprint.info

East Columbus

Arawak City Radio Tower

1021 E. Broad St.

Columbus, Ohio 43205

<http://cbusimc.org>

Contact: brokendoor@cbusimc.org

Schedule Vlogs and Events: radiotower@arawakcity.org

**** Celebrate the Spore Print Infoshop's 1st year anniversary February 27th, 7pm at 172 E. 5th Ave. Bring friends and good times!**

Weekly Events in Arawak City

* Spore Open Shop! - we've got books to lend and free internets galore!

172 e. 5th ave.

sporeprint.info

#Wednesdays 6pm-9pm

#Thursdays 6pm-9pm *NEW HOURS YAY!*

#Fridays 11am-5pm

#Sundays 3pm-9pm

* Third Hand Bike co-op Open Shop - stop in for a tune up, or build a chopper freak bike!

174 e. 5th ave.

thirdhand.org

#Wednesdays 6.30pm-9.30pm

#Saturdays 12pm-6pm

* Third Hand Bike co-op Volunteer Nights - come help us wrench bikes for the community!

#Mondays 5pm-9pm

* Food Not Bombs - arawak city fnb serves food to anyone with an appetite.

fnb@arawakcity.org

#Sundays 12pm-3pm - e-mail fnb@arawakcity.org to get involved!

* Free Geek Open Shop - earn a free computer, learn about ubuntu linux! why run a corporate operating system?

82 e. 16th ave.

freegeekcolumbus.org

#Mondays 7pm-9pm

#Thursdays 7pm-9pm

#Fridays 4pm-9pm

#Saturdays 4pm-7pm

* WCRS Community Radio

102.1/98.3 FM

6-9am and 3pm-1am daily

Democracy Now!, Local Music, multi-lingual!

wcrsfm.org

Arawak City Indymedia

<http://www.cbusimc.org>

brokendoor@cbusimc.org



Local Autonomy Lost Amid Deep Chicken Shit

MARYSVILLE, Ohio. -- The Ohio Department of Agriculture is expected to come to a decision within 30 days regarding Hi-Q Egg Products, LLC's request for final permits to install and operate a 15-house egg farm in West Mansfield. Each structure will house 400,000 laying hens, for a total of 6 million birds on the 437-acre facility. Vehemently opposed by residents, the Union County Health Department, and several local officials, the Johnston, Iowa-based development would be the largest egg-producing facility in Ohio.

Members of the Northwest Neighborhood Alliance, a citizen action group formed to fight the project, argued that adding 6 million birds to the county, which is already home to 3 million birds, would be environmentally irresponsible and unsustainable. Current ODA regulations do not consider concentration of animals within a geographic area when reviewing a farm's application for a permit, and the state of Ohio does not require an Environmental Impact Assessment for agricultural development.

The window for official public comments to the ODA ended December 23, 2008. A public meeting was held December 17th at Marysville High School, where citizens and Union County officials voiced their opposition to the project. Forty-five residents spoke, most notably about

how the facility's estimated annual liquid manure production of 23.5 million gallons would burden the local water system. Other concerns involved the negative impacts on the area's air, water, and soil quality, as well as the potential to create human health problems. Residents also complained the development would have a detrimental effect on property values, and several members of the animal rights group, Mercy for Animals, spoke out against the company on ethical grounds, citing objections to "factory farm" living conditions for the birds.

Tom McCarthy, a Union County Commissioner, opposed the project on the grounds that Hi-Q has not been accountable to the public and recommended the permitting process be put on hold. He said that Hi-Q representatives have been reluctant to discuss necessary road improvements that must be made to support increased heavy trucking traffic that would come with the facility. He also said a traffic study was done by Hi-Q without the input of the county engineer.

On December 22nd, Union County Prosecutor Dave Phillips submitted his formal complaints to the ODA on behalf of the Union County Commissioners and the York Township trustees. Complaints included the developer's unwillingness to meet with county officials regarding infrastructure improvements, as well as their failure to actually purchase the York Township site for the farm. The official complaint also included concerns that Hi-Q's pest control management and manure spill emergency response plans were inadequate. Phillips told the Free Press in a phone interview last week that the ODA requires negotiation between the developers and municipalities regarding infrastructural improvements, but acknowledged that the statute isn't very clear about what agreements, if any, must be made.



"The statute itself provides remedies to townships/counties if the improvements aren't put into place, but they're post-permit. That presupposes there's an agreement, and we think there should be one," says Phillips.

Other than this, the homeless along the river are camped again, but not as many and they are more hidden than a couple years ago. Graffiti is still up that attacks the complacency of parks and recreation to making the area inhospitable to those that reside there. Parks and Recreation are bad landlords that pretend they don't have tenants. By not claiming a relationship of dominance over the homeless and their life, Parks and Recreation are the most vile of landlords. Treating the homeless as trespassers, they look the other way when the police need joggers to vote Coleman. It was an election year for the mayor when the homeless were dislocated.

Mayor Coleman has been at war with the homeless for most of service as mayor. The vanguard of the local bourgeois, Coleman leads the charge in the name of the Democratic party. In alliance with the developers of the city, Coleman has created a autocratic network of gentrifiers. Kicking the homeless off the Scioto River parks and closing the Central Station shelter has been painful to many homeless. It wasn't the first actions against them. In the University District in the late 90s the homeless were dispersed when they cut down the tree and removed the public bench next to the old Insomnia. The campus bars were all destroyed for the Gateway a couple years after that.



It would seem that the intervention of developers is founded on moving the homeless and removing crime before the developers make the area for the gentry. If the homeless start disappearing in your neighborhood, you can bet the developers haven't finished cleaning house.

** You can find more entries from RAW at <http://anarchistnews.org/?q=blog/1337>

We spent half the day Sunday walking through the Hilltop neighborhood closest to Franklinton. The neighborhood acts as the gateway to the Hilltop from the east going west along Broad Street, Sullivant Avenue, Town Street. and Mound Street. All these streets cut across Franklinton and towards downtown going east, but going west, they only highlight the possibilities of travel on the west side of Columbus.

Many of the times I played, "Is there a notice". I would walk up to houses with high lawns and check to see if it was abandoned or had a notice posted on its front door. We decided to role play that we were prospective buyers of houses, which got a different response than we thought it would. When we were questioned about why we were "in their neighborhood" and gave this response, we were told to "get out of their neighborhood". We smiled at the response, it was a response to us coming in and buying "houses" as we said it. We weren't looking for "a house" but "houses" and they knew we were the enemy. It was awesome.

This housing crisis has proven to be a boon to walking sideways. The yards that normally I couldn't cut across I can. The prospectives on squatting in poor areas is higher than ever.

**EVICTIION
NOTICE**

Besides walking past the sadness of dislocated of residents, We've discovered what appears to be a citywide war between bloods and crips. This isn't talked about in the media, but it is written on the walks in graffiti. Bloods, crips, BK or CK on underpasses, houses, garages and businesses. It is posted on fliers and banners as demands to "Stop the Violence". The names of the dead on these banners reflect the war, their nicknames posted to remind people who they actually were when they lived. This was reflected by the legal name that wasn't there that would of only exposed who they were when they were born, got arrested or died.

This war goes from the East: Olde Towne East, King-Lincoln and so on. To the North: Short North and the University District. To the West: Hilltop area, New Rome. It wasn't in Franklinton nor in the areas of the Hilltop that are predominantly white. It also wasn't bloods-crips to the south, but rather bloods-nazis.

County officials believe there should be an agreement, and the ODA says they cannot deny the permit if all of the requirements are met. "We're more stringent than anyone in the U.S.," said Bill Schwaderer, spokesperson for ODA.



Tom Lohr, spokesman for Hi-Q, verified that a preliminary of analysis of road repair needs was done after the initial meeting with Union County took place and Hi-Q regarded the county's proposals as being too intensive and costly at this point.

"We've done everything required by the ODA at this point. Once we get the permit, then we'll work out the details. Why spend thousands of thousands of dollars estimating repair needs until we have the permit?"

Lohr also mentioned the possibility of building a northern entrance to a state highway, rather than county roads, in order to avoid traffic conflicts.

In response to questions of environmental concerns the facility may pose, Lohr said, "The buildings are large enough that all the loading of the truck will be done within the building, so the risk of contamination from any manure is basically zero.

"It's not going to be made wet. It's not like a pig farm where where you have liquid manure. The only liquid that will be on this farm will be from the egg-washing water," said Lohr.

If the permit is granted, Union County officials and effective citizens can appeal to the Environmental Review Appeals Commission, an appellate board appointed by the Governor, but as the ERAC's primary function is hearing appeals on Ohio Environmental Protection Agency decisions, it is unclear what jurisdiction they would have over a permit granted by the ODA.

by Melissa Gilliam

** You can find articles like this and more at <http://www.cbusimc.org>



In the Vlogs

Arawak City Indymedia hosts Vlogging at the Arawak City Radio Tower, located at 1021 E. Broad St. Columbus, Ohio 43205. Individuals and groups participating in this project publish some of their completed work on cbusimc.org. Arawak City Indymedia invites interested groups and individuals to come to our office and receive training on how to make a vlog. We suggest \$20 for individual donations and \$40 for group donations to receive trainings (sliding scale). To schedule, please contact us via email radiotower@arawakcity.org or call 224-1082

Arawak City Radio Tower: The Vlog



Trin Kiger and friends hang out at the Radio Tower sharing thoughts, discourse and good times. Sometimes radical, sometimes irrelevant, the friends of the Radio Tower mix creatively to bring something both fun and interesting to Arawak City. Email radiotower@arawakcity.org for a guest spot.

Arawak City Radio Tower Event

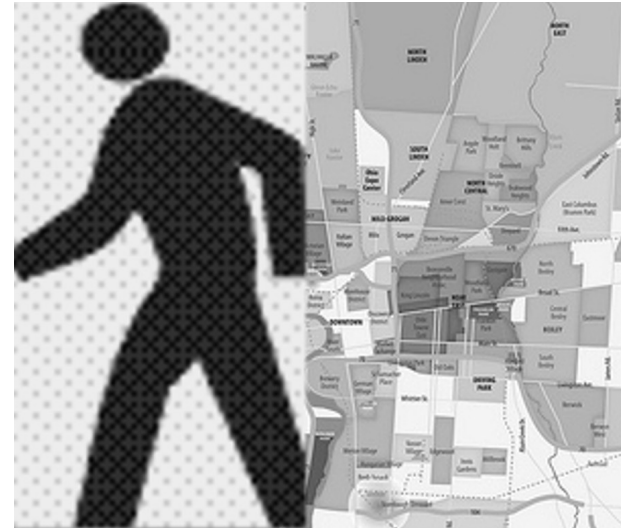
Bands, booze and much more!

March 13th \$5 Suggested Donation

1021 E. Broad St. Doors Open at 6pm

(The Back House) Call 224-1082 for details

Revolt Against Work
<http://anarchistnews.org/?q=blog/1337>
revoltagainstwork@yahoo.com



Drifting Sideways

So I was wandering around the other day and I discovered the hyper-reality of "walking sideways". I try to make a straight line in my walk or as straight as I can. This straight line intersects diagonally across the field of activity. Cross the street, cut through the church parking lot, across the vacant house's yard, cross another street perpendicular to the former, hop a fence, etc.

The trick to walking sideways is to not get lost in another world. It becomes apparent that another world is created by walking sideways when I've completed 4 hours of walking in this direction. I usually know where I am or at least have a general idea, but I have cut through residential neighborhoods, hopped fences, waddled across creeks and rivers and so on. My world is flipped. My rest stops are hidden areas in the cracks of the city. Drink a beer or an energy drink and chill.

In certain areas its hard to walk sideways. the fences are high or barbed, the neighbors are nosy, dogs are yapping or threatening to rip you to pieces, etc. But in areas where the houses are largely vacant, it becomes an adventure.

Free Press Second Saturday Salon

Second Saturday Salon w/
the Columbus Free Press
Every second saturday of
the month. Potluck food
and drink. Come share and
socialize with Central
Ohio progressives.
Presentations, music, film
and more to be announced.
Festivities start around
6:30pm. Bring Friends!

Every second saturday of the month, come on down to 1021 E. Broad St. at the Big House for presentations, music, conversation, food, drinks and good times with the Columbus Free Press and friends! Starts at 6:30 pm. Feb 14th, March 14th, April 11th

Vlog: Freepress.org w/ Bob Fittrakis

freepress.org w/
Bob Fittrakis

Bob Fittrakis, editor of *Freepress.org* and *Columbus Free Press* keeps the progressive community up to date with developing events and biting analysis. Stay connected at <http://www.freepress.org> for the latest vlogs from Bob Fittrakis and the Free Press.

Free Press

<http://www.freepress.org>
truth@freepress.org



A \$50 Billion nuke power bomb is dropping toward Obama's stimulus package

The desperate, dangerous nuclear power industry has dropped a \$50 billion stealth bomb meant to irradiate the Obama Stimulus Package.

It comes in the form of a mega-loan guarantee package that would build new reactors Wall Street wouldn't finance even when it had cash. It will take a healthy dose of citizen action to stop it, so start calling your Senators now.

The vaguely worded bailout-in-advance provision was snuck through the Senate Appropriations Committee in the deep night of January 27. It would provide \$50 billion in loan guarantees for "eligible technologies" that would technically include renewable sources and electric transmission. But the handout is clearly directed at nukes and "clean coal."

The Stimulus Package is explicitly meant to create jobs within the next two years. But according to sources at the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, no new reactors could be licensed for construction within that time. Nor could any new coal plants. And thus the funds in this rider are to "remain available until committed." That means their "stimulus"

might not go into effect for many years.

But the nuclear industry does have the ability to spend large sums of money on “site preparation” and other busy work prior to being licensed. Though the guarantees could technically be used for truly green sources such as wind and solar, the provision’s backers, including Senators Robert Bennett (R-UT) and Thomas Carper (D-DE), have made it clear that this money is meant to go for new reactor construction.

In late 2007, nuclear power's Congressional Godfather, then-Sen. Pete Domenici (R-NM), stuck a similar \$50 billion loan guarantee package into that year’s energy bill. A grassroots uprising, joined by virtually all national environmental organizations, helped defeat the package. Among other things, the fight inspired a music video from Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, Graham Nash, Keb Mo and Ben Harper (www.nukefree.org).

In late 2008 the industry came back again with a blank check package that went down in flames along with the stock market.

Still unable to get private financing, the industry is back yet again. In the interim, the projected cost of building new reactors has soared to more than \$10 billion each, and continues to climb steadily. Many of the previous generation of reactors came in hugely over budget. According to the Nuclear Information & Resource Service, one DOE study places the overall average overruns at 207%. But reactor projects such as Seabrook, in New Hampshire, New York's Shoreham, Pennsylvania's Beaver Valley, California's Diablo Canyon, and many others, far exceeded that.

The Congressional Budget Office now predicts that half the nuclear utilities using such a loan program will go into default. Some \$18.5 billion in loan guarantees has already been approved, apparently for such use. But its legality is being hotly disputed, and the money has not been distributed by the Department of Energy.



Washington insiders believe this latest attempt at a pre-arranged bailout has again come from Domenici, who has stayed in Washington to lobby for his radioactive benefactors after apparently retiring from the Senate in January.

This guarantee package was not part of the Stimulus Package that passed the House. Its secretive, late night inclusion on the Senate side is reminiscent of how former Vice President Dick Cheney did business for the fossil/nuclear corporations that funded much of the Bush Administration. The reappearance of this kind of back door dealing has not been well received, especially in the House.



Numerous national groups, including the Nuclear Information & Resource Service (www.nirs.org) are providing sign-ins for sending e-mails to the Senate. They also urge that you call your Senator at 202-224-3121.

Time is fast slipping by for the nuke power industry. As the popularity of renewables and efficiency escalates, the most obvious source of new jobs and prosperity has become truly green technologies. Atomic power has long since been priced out of the market. Only massive federal and ratepayer subsidies could bring it back, to the direct detriment of the revolution in renewables.

Defeating this latest money grab will help drive another nail in the coffin of the 20th century’s most expensive failed technology. It is an essential step toward a truly green-powered future.

Harvey Wasserman's SOLARTOPIA! Our Green-Powered Earth, is at www.harveywasserman.com. He edits the NukeFree.org web site, and is Senior Editor of www.freepress.org, where this article first appeared (January 31, 2009).

**** You can find articles like this and more at <http://www.freepress.org>**